

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

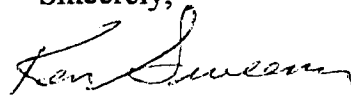
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I want to offer my support for the settlement with Microsoft, which is to be finalized at the end of the month. Although the case against Microsoft seemed to have merit, Microsoft appears to be the victim of having not contributed to the right political campaign at the right time. A break-up of Microsoft would lead to more questions and further undermine the economy, so a compromise is in the interest of everyone.

Efforts at breaking up Microsoft are far beyond what is necessary to encourage more competition in the software industry. To the lay person, it would seem that the government is out to get big corporations, like in the tobacco industry, in order to reap a financial whirlwind. The remedial steps Microsoft has agreed to have in some cases surpassed the government's complaints, so in the interest of fair play, it is time to end further litigation.

As a result of constant monitoring by a committee of software experts, as agreed to in the settlement, the terms would appear to be verifiable and an effective tool to allow more players to thrive in the software market. Please allow common sense to prevail and this extremely valuable piece of the American economy to stay intact. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ken Sweeney".

Kenneth Sweeney